

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /061 W

----- 090600

R 112038Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0768

INFO FAA BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CDG AIRPORT ISSUE

REF: (A) PARIS 7028, (B) PARIS 16913

1. WE HAVE AT LONG LAST RECEIVED (ON JULY 11) RESPONSE FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY TO OUR AIDE MEMOIRE OF MARCH 20 (REF A) ON CDG AIRPORT ISSUE. RESPONSE IS IN FORM OF AIDE MEMOIRE DATED JULY 3 WHICH WAS DELIVERED TO EMBASSY.

2. EMBASSY HAD OVER PAST MONTHS PERIODICALLY MADE INFORMAL FOLLOW-UPS TO FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THIS SUBJECT, WHICH IS ONE OF EVIDENT EMBARRASSMENT TO CABOUAT AND CLAUDE-LAFONTAINE. BOTH CONFESSED FREELY TO US THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD THUS FAR BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN ITS EFFORTS TO BRING CIVAIR AUTHORITIES TO CORRECT WHAT FOREIGN MINISTRY READILY CONCEDED WAS FLAGRANT DISCRIMINATION TO WHICH OUR CARRIERS WERE SUBJECTED AT CDG AIRPORT. CABOUAT TOLD US HE HAD RAISED MATTER WITH CHAIRMAN OF PARIS AIRPORT AUTHORITY, WHO PLACED BLAME WITH AIR FRANCE AND HELD OUT NO PROMISE OF EARLY RELIEF FOR OUR CARRIERS. MORE RECENTLY WE HAD LEARNED FROM CLAUDE-LAFONTAINE THAT RESPONSE TO OUR AIDE

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MEMOIRE WAS IN PREPARATION, NOT BECAUSE THERE HAD

BEEN ANY MOVEMENT ON FRENCH SIDE BUT SIMPLY BECAUSE FOREIGN MINISTRY FELT THAT IT COULD NO LONGER DELAY REPLY OF SOME SORT.

3. AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED LISTS CONNECTING SERVICES CURRENTLY PROVIDED AT CDG FOR FIVE MAJOR PROVINCIAL CITIES AND ADMITS THAT FREQUENCIES DO NOT CORRESPOND TO WHAT HAD BEEN PLANNED INITIALLY (AND, WE RECALL, ON WHICH OUR CARRIERS HAD RECEIVED WRITTEN ASSURANCES FROM SGAC). HOWEVER, AIR FRANCE IS BEING ASKED TO SCHEDULE A THIRD DAILY FLIGHT TO NICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. LOW DEMAND ON WEEKENDS IS CITED TO EXPLAIN ABSENCE OF WEEKEND SERVICE TO LYON AND MARSEILLE, AND AIDE MEMOIRE STATES THAT IT WOULD THEREFORE BE DIFFICULT FOR FRENCH CIVAIR AUTHORITIES TO INSIST THAT FRENCH CARRIERS MAKE WEEKEND FLIGHTS TO THESE TWO CITIES AT TIME WHEN CARRIERS ARE ALREADY BURDENED FINANCIALLY BECAUSE OF HIGHER FUEL COSTS. (COMMENT: FLIGHTS TO LYON AND MARSEILLE DO OPERATE FROM ORLY ON WEEKENDS, WHICH OUR CARRIERS CLAIM IS PEAK PERIOD FOR THEM.)

4. AIDE MEMOIRE FURTHER ADMITS THAT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES OF CDG"CONNECTIONS" ARE NOT AS SATISFACTORY AS US CARRIERS MIGHT WISH, THOUGH SOME IMPROVEMENT "IS HOPED FOR" PENDING "DEFINITIVE INSTALLATION" OF AIR FRANCE AT CDG NOV. 1, 1974. WHILE SITUATION IS NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY TO AMERICAN CARRIERS, IT IS HOPED US AUTHORITIES WILL UNDERSTAND THAT SITUATION RESULTS FROM "THE COMPLEXITY OF PROBLEMS OF ALL KINDS" POSED BY DISTRIBUTION OF AIR TRAFFIC AMONG THE THREE AIRPORTS CDG, ORLY AND LE BOURGET. PROBLEMS CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED PROGRESSIVELY AND IT IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE SCHEDULES TO MEET ALL THE NEEDS OF CARRIERS. AIDE MEMOIRE CONCLUDES THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY NONETHELESS WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW QUESTION CLOSELY IN LIAISON WITH FRENCH CIVAIR AUTHORITIES.

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5. FRENCH TEXT AND TRANSLATION OF AIDE MEMOIRE AS WELL AS FULLER COMMENTS ON OUR PART WILL FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM.

IRWIN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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